

DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET INFORMATION

LAW DEPARTMENT (32)

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Law Department will help support the Mayor's vision to transform the government of the City of Detroit to the Next Detroit by applying the guiding principles of the Next Detroit, which means structural balancing by bringing costs in line with revenue, while improving services.

The Law Department delivers excellent and efficient legal counseling and representation to the Executive and Legislative branches of City government as mandated by the City Charter.

DESCRIPTION

The Law Department is headed by the Corporation Counsel, who is appointed by the Mayor. The Law Department is comprised of five divisions: Administration, Governmental Affairs, Labor, Property/Environmental and Litigation. Each division, with the exception of the Administration Division, is responsible for a discrete area of the law and is made up of several sections.

The Law Department is required, by Charter, to represent the City of Detroit in all civil actions or proceedings filed against the city. The Corporation Counsel may also prosecute any action or proceeding in which the city has a legal interest when directed to do so by the Mayor. The Corporation Counsel is the city prosecutor and shall institute, on behalf of the people, cases arising from the provisions of the charter or city ordinances, and prosecute all actions for the recovery of fines, penalties and forfeitures.

The Law Department is also responsible for providing advice and opinions to the Mayor, a member of City Council or the head of any city agency, for approving all contracts, bonds and written instruments and for drafting, upon the request of the Mayor or any member of City Council, any ordinance or resolution for introduction before City Council.

MAJOR INITIATIVES FOR FY 2005-06 and FY 2006-07

The Law Department has played a pivotal role in the process of assisting the City with efforts to right size and streamline government. This process will continue in 2005-06 and 2006-07.

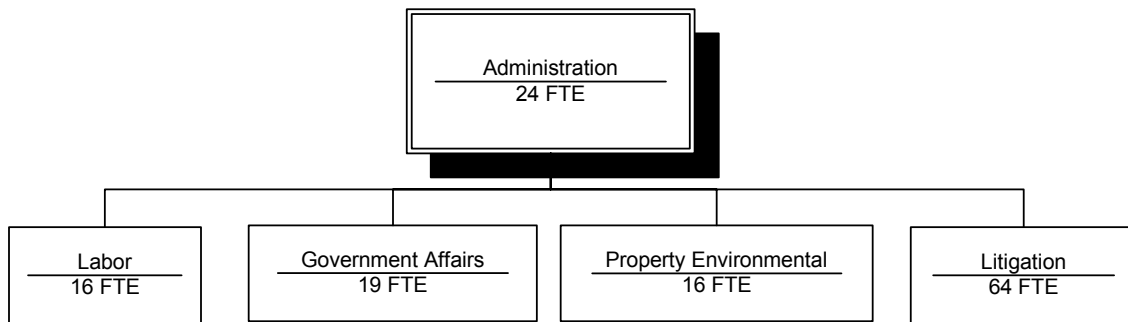
The Law Department is also moving forward with efforts to update its technology and methods for resolving cases against the City of Detroit. The department has updated its computer system, which has proved to be of timely benefit for the current Federal Court requirement of electronic filing.

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE FOR FY 2006-07, FY 2007-08 and BEYOND

The department is continuously examining best practices of the legal industry to enhance department operations.

The department has established the appropriate supervisory staff ratios as a result of a department-wide workforce analysis. This will help the department streamline and fine-tune its operational practices for the future fiscal years, along with the continuous efforts to reduce operational costs now and into the future.

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PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND TARGETS

Type of Performance Measure: List of Measures	2004-05 Actual	2005-06 Projection	2006-07 Target
Inputs: Resources Allocated or Service Demands Made Percent of professional staff attending at least one external training program per year	100%	100%	100%
Outputs: Units of Activity directed toward Goals Percent of timely responses to written assignments	91%	94%	96%
Outcomes: Results or Impacts of Program Activities Percent of clients rating department services satisfactory or better Levels of revenue collections	95% \$2,100,000	95% \$2,100,000	97% \$1,000,000

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	2004-05 Actual Expense	2005-06 Redbook	2006-07 Mayor's Budget Rec	Variance	Variance Percent
Salary & Wages	\$ 12,056,326	\$ 8,465,656	\$ 9,216,410	\$ 750,754	9%
Employee Benefits	7,010,137	4,972,847	6,712,898	1,740,051	35%
Prof/Contractual	3,998,869	1,898,480	3,005,963	1,107,483	58%
Operating Supplies	127,451	408,632	408,432	(200)	0%
Operating Services	3,678,151	2,393,432	2,551,639	158,207	7%
Capital Equipment	66,664	87,500	87,500	-	0%
Fixed Charges	1,998	-	1,999	1,999	0%
Other Expenses	31,878	-	9,900	9,900	0%
TOTAL	\$ 26,971,474	\$ 18,226,547	\$ 21,994,741	\$ 3,768,194	21%
POSITIONS	176	146	139	(7)	-5%

REVENUES

	2004-05 Actual Revenue	2005-06 Redbook	2006-07 Mayor's Budget Rec	Variance	Variance Percent
Grants/ Shared	\$ 47,543	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%
Sales & Charges	2,644,228	2,934,357	2,969,357	35,000	1%
Miscellaneous	69,515	180,000	180,000	-	0%
TOTAL	\$ 2,761,286	\$ 3,114,357	\$ 3,149,357	\$ 35,000	1%